

2009 Appropriations Projects

City of Montgomery and Montgomery County Interoperable Upgrades

The City of Montgomery received \$360,000 for the Montgomery Interoperable Upgrades Project. This project will implement an in-car digital video and server solution for City of Montgomery police vehicles and Montgomery County sheriff vehicles. This system will replace outdated systems that are currently in police and sheriff vehicles and provide new installations in vehicles that are currently without a system. This project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will increase security and improve convictions of community crime.

Cleveland Avenue YMCA

The Montgomery YMCA requested \$100,000 to support community outreach programs. The Cleveland Avenue YMCA collaborates with the Montgomery Public Schools through the implementation of various structured afterschool and weekend programs designed to improve reading and math test scores for at risk youth. These programs involve several school sites and YMCA facilities and serve over 400 youth daily in grades 3 through 9. Additionally, their childcare program serves over 300 additional youth daily in an environment that allows them to receive instruction in music, dance, computers and art. These programs provide a safe and healthy environment for youth that might otherwise have little or no supervision during these service hours. The funds will be used to fund teachers and counselors who work in the program. This is a wise use of taxpayer funds because community outreach programs provide kids with a valuable foundation for future success.

Cypress Creek Restoration Project

The City of Montgomery is a public entity responsible for providing basic services, improving the quality of life of its residents, and stimulating economic growth. The Cypress Creek Restoration Project received \$100,000 to provide significant economic development downtown and will boost tourism in the historic capital city. Cypress Creek was once part of the Alabama River aquatic system, but unfortunately has become a contaminated and unusable area. This project is a wise use of taxpayer dollars because it would restore this area to its original pristine condition and allow economic development and increased tourism in an economically challenged area of the city.

Northington Road Drainage Project in Prattville.

The City of Prattville received \$500,000 for the Northington Road Drainage Project. Northington Street is a heavily traveled connecting thoroughfare with another part of the city. Due to poor drainage and flooding problems on Northington Street, travelers to nearby streets are often adversely affected. This project will allow for the reconstruction of the existing drainage system by replacing inadequately sized drain pipes with those of the necessary size. This will allow for safer travel on and around Northington Street. This project is a wise use of taxpayer funds because it would limit flooding and increase public safety on an important thoroughfare in the City of Prattville.

Downtown Business Development Project

The City of Dothan received \$500,000 to continue its efforts to revitalize the downtown area. Investing resources to improve the streetscape through lighting, underground utilities, removal of blighted buildings, signage, sidewalks and traffic improvements is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because this investment will create a better environment for business and trade, business incubation, and increase access to retail, educational and government resources.

Enterprise Southeast Lagoon Upgrade Project

The City of Enterprise received \$500,000 for upgrades to the city's Southeast Wastewater Treatment Plant, which currently operates as a lagoon system with a 1,500,000 gallons per day capacity advanced secondary wastewater treatment plant. This project is necessary due to the rapid growth in the Enterprise area, which has created more stress on the antiquated lagoon system. The lagoon system is also nearing its chemical limits as outlined by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) and the city faces the prospect of fines and penalties as a result of the strain on the system. This project is a wise use of taxpayer dollars because it would

protect human health and the environment and allow for continued growth in the Enterprise area.

Farm Deployable Microbial BioReactor for Fuel Ethanol Production Project

Auburn University at Montgomery received \$800,000 to conduct research to develop a farm deployable microbial bioreactor for fuel ethanol production. The bioreactor will employ mixtures of bacteria and yeasts to convert inedible plant waste to fuel ethanol. The proposed system is cost-efficient, simple and usable, and has potential for home production. If proved successful, this effort will give farmers a way to use agricultural waste to create ethanol. This project is a wise use of taxpayer dollars because it seeks to facilitate important advancements in the field of advanced biofuel production, which will benefit farmers throughout the 2nd District.

Hayneville Road Improvements

Hayneville received \$300,000 to repave three streets that are in poor condition and unsafe for motorists. This project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would improve motorist safety and facilitate further development in the town of Hayneville and surrounding areas in the town of Hayneville and surrounding areas.

Javelin Warhead Improvement Program

The Javelin Missile, the weapon system of choice for soldiers in combat, received \$5,000,000. This request would fund testing and systems integration development of a multi-purpose insensitive munitions (IM) compliant warhead that addresses critical warfighter requirements. It would continue critical Guidance Electronics Unit (GEU) and sensor updates to avoid the system becoming obsolete. Funding would help to continue development of an IM multi-purpose warhead to address additional critical war target sets and continue a phased program to maintain Javelin relevance into the future. This project is a wise use of taxpayer funds because it would help troops in the field avoid friendly fire incidents, expand irregular warfare missions, minimize collateral damage, and allowing greater use of Javelin with restrictive Rules of Engagement (ROE).

McQueen Smith Road Expansion

While McQueen Smith Road north of Cobbs Ford Road is five lanes, it narrows to two lanes south of Cobbs Ford. This bottleneck causes a significant traffic situation that not only causes delay but also increases risks to motorists. The McQueen Smith Road Expansion is a good use of taxpayer funds because McQueen Smith Road is a heavily traveled connector between Prattville's primary retail corridor and its primary commercial thoroughway. Prattville received \$1,000,000 for this project.

Ozark Police Department Technology Improvements

The City of Ozark received \$140,000 for the purchase and implementation of critical public safety equipment. The request seeks to secure equipment that would enable the Ozark Police Department to utilize camera and radar equipment which would facilitate interoperable communication and aid in the successful prosecution of criminal cases. This project is a wise use of taxpayer funds because it would enhance safety and security for the citizens of Ozark and Dale County, Alabama.

Research Center on Detection and Food Safety at Auburn University

This project received \$1,748,000 to improve the safety of the U.S. food system by developing the science and engineering required to rapidly identify, pinpoint, and characterize problems that arise in the food supply chain through an integration of sensor and information technology. The project will educate a new generation of engineers and scientists on new ways to address complex issues in the food industry. The project will deliver new technologies for real-time contamination detection and information technologies for traceability and inventory control.

Tri-State Joint Peanut Research Project at Auburn University

The Tri-State Joint Peanut Research Project at Auburn University received \$413,000. The economies of Alabama, Georgia and Florida, and the survival of communities in this region are dependent on economical row crop production, primarily for peanuts and cotton. Unfortunately, continuous cropping of these more productive crops coupled with intensive tillage practices have resulted in compacted soils, reduced water infiltration, and increased soil erosion. These conditions have reduced yields to the point where profitability of the crops are unreliable. The objective of this on-going tri-state research effort is to demonstrate the economical advantages of crop rotations and conservation tillage and the profitability associated with well managed cropping systems that are integrated with grazing systems. This project is a wise use of taxpayer dollars because peanuts are a prominent crop in the 2nd District and research thus far shows that integration of winter-annual grazing and perennial pastures with peanuts and cotton results in more income per acre than with row crops alone.

Project Energy Innovations for Alabama

George C. Wallace Community College's Energy Innovations for Alabama Program received \$200,000 to target the critical shortage in the local energy-related workforce through training activities to address current and future needs for first-line energy supervisors, industrial maintenance professionals, and engineers. In addition, the program will build the capacity of the College and its partners to address critical needs to ensure the sustainability of the program. Providing the proper equipment for training Alabama's nuclear power-plant workers is a valuable use of taxpayer funds.

Troy University Health and Science Center

The Troy University Health and Science Center received \$500,000 to begin construction of a new facility. Once completed, the center will promote research in environmental science and wellness in rural southeast Alabama. In addition to research, the Center will serve as the School of Nursing for undergraduate and graduate training. This center would incorporate state-of-the-art classrooms and laboratories outfitted with contemporary and interactive technology, clinical wings for counseling and social work, and diagnostic, rehabilitation and treatment centers. This project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because this facility will serve to train more students in various scientific fields and be the point of origin for science and health programs developed for rural K-12 schools, health care providers and community services through innovative delivery systems.

Water Survival Training Facility

Fort Rucker received \$401,000 to make final preparations for a new Water Survival Training Facility (WSTF). The WSTF would allow for the consolidation all of the Helicopter Overwater Survival training, maintenance staff, equipment, and students into a single training facility. It would house all underwater egress training which is required for all flight school students prior to leaving Fort Rucker. The facility would also be home to both the Army Aviation Water Egress Center of Excellence and the Aviation Life Support Equipment (ALSE) Center of Excellence. Academic training, pool training and management operations that currently occur in separate locations would be consolidated within one, state-of-the-art facility. The facility would also be capable of simultaneously training multiple classes in the pool with the use of technologically advanced water egress simulators. Dunker and ALSE academic classes will be consolidated in the same building with common access to the pool facility. This project is a wise use of taxpayer funds because underwater egress training is critical for maintaining safety for Army aviators and is an essential facility at Fort Rucker.